

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 RSC-01

OIC-04 SCI-06 AEC-11 SPM-01 FEA-02 AGR-20 CEA-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03

LAB-06 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20

STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 OMB-01

SWF-02 DRC-01 /267 W
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7265

INFO USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 4328

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EG

SUBJ: NON-ALIGNED ACTIVITIES IN INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS

REF: STATE 099106; CAIRO 4189

1. IN RECENT DISCUSSION WITH KNOWLEDGEABLE EGYPTIAN WHO HAD ATTENDED SIXTH SPECIAL SESSION OF UNGA (REFTEL), THE LATTER WAS CRITICAL OF APPROACH TAKEN BY USG TO PROBLEMS RAISED BY LDCA AND NACG. HE FOUND PARTICULAR FAULT WITH PAST LOW-KEY APPROACH TAKEN BY USG, SAYING USG SHOULD HAVE MADE EFFORT AT EARLY STAGE TO LEAD OR AT VERY MINIMUM TO SHOW GENUINE SERIOUS INTEREST IN THEIR PROBLEMS.

2. SUBJECT OF USG ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AFFAIRS IS ONE WHICH HAS COME UP NATURALLY IN PAST DISCUSSIONS WITH EGYPTIANS. WHEN ASKED WHAT USG MIGHT
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DO TO ENHANCE ITS ALREADY CONSIDERABLE CONTRIBUTIONS,

RESPONSE MORE OFTEN THAN NOT REVERTS BACK TO USG USING ITS POSITION TO INFLUENCE MORE AFFLUENT DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TO DONATE A SPECIFIC PORTION OF THEIR GNP TO ASSIST STRUGGLING LDCS IN MEETING THEIR FINANCIAL SHORTCOMINGS OR TO HELP THEM DEVELOP ASSETS WHICH WOULD MAKE THEM MORE VIABLE ECONOMICALLY. THIS THEN IS REINFORCED WITH STATEMENTS THAT THE USG HAS CONSISTENTLY BEEN TOO RIGID IN ITS APPROACH TO AID, ADOPTING CERTAIN FRAMEWORKS FOR THEIR AID PROGRAMS WHICH, ALTHOUGH OFTEN DESIGNED TO PROVIDE FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH IN THE LONG TERM, ALLOW THE LDC IN QUESTION TO FLUNDER IN THE SHORT RUN. A PREOCCUPATION WITH THE "DEVELOPMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE" WAS CITED AS AN EXAMPLE IN THIS REGARD. WHEN IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT DEVELOPMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE AS AN OBJECTIVE MIGHT INDEED HAVE MERIT FROM SEVERAL STANDPOINTS, IT WAS OBVIOUS THAT FOCUS ON THE LONG TERM RANKLED AND THAT IN THESE EGYPTIAN EYES EMPHASIS IN ASSISTANCE TO LDCS SHOULD BE ON QUICK SOLUTIONS AND PROMPT REMEDIAL ACTIONS, DESPITE SOLUTIONS AND PROMPT REMEDIAL ACTIONS, DESPITE FACT IN FINAL ANALYSIS THIS MIGHT BE WASTEFUL.

3. IN DISCUSSING A VARIETY OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AFFAIRS ISSUES WITH EGYPTIANS, THERE WAS SURPRISINGLY LITTLE READINESS ON THEIR PART TO ACCEPT THE REALITY THAT USG HAD TO BE CONCERNED WITH CONGRESSIONAL ATTITUDES. SINCE THEY ARE NOT FACED WITH SUCH A PROBLEM THEMSELVES IN THEIR CONDUCT OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, THE SPECTRE OF A PENURIOUS CONGRESS TAKING AN INCREASINGLY NEGATIVE ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE UN HAS LESS MEANING OR APPEARS SOMETHING CONTRIVED FOR REASONS OF TACTICS.

4. WITH REGARD TO THE POSSIBLE WAYS IN WHICH TO INFLUENCE THE ATTITUDES OF THE LDCS IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AFFAIRS AS SUGGESTED IN PARA 4 OF STATE 099106, WE FIND COURSES A, B, D, E WORTHWHILE COURSE OF ACTION. COURSE C, HOWEVER, COULD BE TROUBLESOME AND WOULD DEPEND GREATLY UPON

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THE SKILL WITH WHICH IT IS ADMINISTERED. THE USG, BECAUSE OF ITS EXPERIENCE AND OFTEN OF ITS STAFFING RESOURCES, IS IN A POSITION TO CONTRIBUTE MUCH TO THE UNDERSTUDY OF INTERNATIONAL ISSUES.

5. COURSE B OF PARA 4, STATE 099106 AFFORDS PROMISE FOR RESULTS IN THE RELATIVE SHORT TERM, PROVIDED IT IS ADMINISTERED WITH SKILL AND COMMON SENSE. MANY

NATIONS (EGYPT AMONG THEM ACCORDING TO OUR EXPERIENCE) WELCOME ASSISTANCE IN SORTING OUT THE ISSUES. THEY ARE QUICK TO APPRECIATE BEING PROVIDED WITH AN EXPLANATORY PAPER BEFORE A GIVEN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE. IT HELPS THEM TO THEIR OWN HOMEWORK AND THE FACT THAT ONE IS TRYING TO MAKE A POINT IS SIMPLY TAKEN IN STRIDE. OUR WEAKNESS, HOWEVER, HAS OFTEN BEEN IN OUR OWN INABILITY TO PROVIDE SUCCINCT STATEMENTS DEFINING THE ISSUES. IN PREPARATION FOR SOME UPCOMING INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES, WE HAVE INUNDED HOST COUNTRIES WITH MATERIAL, WHILE FOR OTHER MEETINGS VERY LITTLE OR NO INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED. PAPERS ALONG THE LINES OF THE USEFUL PUBLIC AFFAIRS GIST SERIES TO EXPLAIN OUR POSITION ON A VARIETY OF ISSUES WOULD BE WELCOMED.

6. COURSE E, IN ALL LIKELIHOOD, AFFORDS THE GREATEST AREA FOR POTENTIAL IMPROVEMENT AND YET PERHAPS IN THE LEAST LIKELY ONE IN WHICH WE WILL BE ABLE TO ACHIEVE ANY SUBSTANTIAL FORWARD MOVEMENT. CONGRESSIONAL RESTRAINTS, INERTIA, UNEVEN QUALITY IN THE SECRETARIATS OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND LDC IMPATIENCE ARE SERIOUS ROADBLOCKS. THIS IS AN AREA WHICH DESERVES FOCUS. GREATER STRESS COULD BE PLACED UPON BRINGING HIGHLY QUALIFIED AMERICANS INTO THE SECRETARIATS OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AS WELL AS MAKING AVAILABLE TALENTED OFFICERS ALREADY IN THE USG FOR POSITIONS IN SUCH ORGANIZATIONS.

7. IN FINAL ANALYSIS, USG IS FACED WITH A SERIOUS CHALLENGE AS LDCS CONSTITUTING A MAJORITY

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OF WORLD NATIONS ARE MORE ABLE TO DOMINATE INTERNATIONAL FORUMS. NEVERTHELESS, WITH ENERGY AND WISDOM, INROADS CAN BE MADE. STATE'S 099106 ALREADY IS ONE STEP DOWN THAT PATH.
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